



## Claims:

1. A photographic element comprising at least one silver halide emulsion layer having associated therewith a phenolic cyan dye-forming coupler of formula (I)

wherein

5

10

X is hydrogen or a group that can be split off by the reaction of the coupler with an oxidised colour developing agent, and

one of Y and Z is the group

wherein

each R is independently an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted;

R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group,

R<sub>2</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted;

R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl or aryl group,

n is 1 or 2, and each group –N(R<sub>2</sub>)SO<sub>2</sub>R is in the ortho or para position,

the other of Y and Z is a fluoro-substituted alkyl group or an unsubstituted or substituted aryl group or a 5-10 membered heterocyclic ring which contains one or more

20

15

gb9904360





heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, which ring is unsubstituted or substituted, provided that (a) when  $R_2$  is an unsubstituted benzyl group, n is 1 and  $-N(R_2)SO_2R$  is in the ortho position, R may not be a pyridyl group, and (b) at least one of R,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ , X and Y or Z is or includes a ballast group.

- 5 2. An element according to claim 1 wherein R, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently an unsubstituted or substituted alkyl group.
  - 3. An element according to either of the preceding claims wherein each of R and R<sub>2</sub> is a lower alkyl group.
- 4. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R<sub>1</sub> is an alkyl group having at least 8 carbon atoms.
  - 5. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen.
  - 6. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein n is 1 and the group -N(R<sub>2</sub>)SO<sub>2</sub>R is in the para position.
- 7. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the group Z contains the -N(R<sub>2</sub>)SO<sub>2</sub>R substituent and the group Y is an unsbustituted or substituted aryl group.
  - 8. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the cyan dye-forming coupler has the structure





9. An element according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the cyan dyeforming coupler has the structure

- 10. A multicolour photographic element comprising a support bearing yellow, magenta and cyan image-dye-forming units comprising at least one blue-, green-or red-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer having associated therewith at least one yellow, magenta or cyan dye-forming coupler respectively, wherein the element comprises at least one cyan dye-forming coupler of formula (I) as defined in any one of the preceding claims.
  - 11. A process of forming an image in a photographic element after the element has been imagewise exposed to light, comprising contacting the element, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, with a colour developing agent.
  - 12. A coupler of formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 9.

15